

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA

Alexandria Division

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	
	:	
v.	:	Case No. 1:10cr200 (LMB)
	:	
LEE BENTLEY FARKAS,	:	
	:	
Defendant.	:	

NOTICE OF FILING LETTERS FOR SENTENCING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the defendant, LEE BENTLEY FARKAS, by and through his counsel, is filing the following redacted character letters (identified for filing purposes by number as “1-1” through “1-48”):

1. Erla Carter-Shaw;
2. John Cathro;
3. Robert A. Cromartie;
4. Shawn Cross;
5. Janet Duncan;
6. Joe W. Ellis;
7. Alonzo Esgaib;
8. R. William Futch;
9. David Galvan;
10. Rabbi Yossi Hecht;
11. Jim Herzberger;
12. Terri A. Huber;

13. Robert Huff;
14. Jose Interiano;¹
15. Mary Ann Johnson;
16. Paulette Johnston;
17. Laurie P. Jones;
18. Debbie Kemp;
19. Marlene King;
20. Paula King;
21. Susan E. King;
22. Richard B. Klein;
23. Frances M. Lamz;
24. Joan and Norman Lapping;
25. Carlos D. Lopez;
26. Judy Lovelace;
27. Carolina Molinos;
28. Manuel M. Molinos;
29. Nedra Morose;
30. Steven Morose;
31. Carole Morrissey;
32. Deborah Nosewicz;
33. Tim Parker;

¹ Mr. Interiano's letter was translated "in-house" and the original version, in Spanish, is available for review upon request.

34. Wayne Pollack;
35. Margaret A. Potter-Levane;
36. Justin Potts;
37. John M. Rennie;
38. Jerome C. Sarason;
39. Sigrid Schwartz
40. Jo-Ann Semler;
41. Mark Spaulding;
42. Kendel Standlee;
43. David Stark;
44. Samantha Stathas;
45. Jessica Vega;
46. Kimberly Wages-Bead;
47. Sarah Wood;
48. Jeanette Zufelt.

Addresses and telephone numbers have been redacted, and counsel for the defendant will maintain the original, unredacted, letters for the court's review if requested. Because the letters will be filed electronically, after being scanned, it will be necessary for them to be filed separately or in small groups, but each letter or group of letters will be filed as exhibits to this Notice.

Respectfully submitted,

LEE BENTLEY FARKAS

/s/

WILLIAM B. CUMMINGS, ESQUIRE
VA Bar No. 6469
Co-Counsel for LEE BENTLEY FARKAS
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The Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

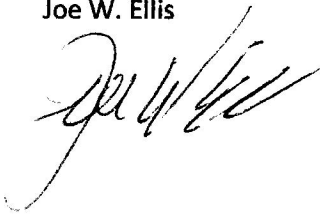
There have been numerous instances where Mr. Farkas took care of his employees and several occasions where he made contributions to various Community Projects.

Due to Stage 4 Colon Cancer I had several treatments of Chemotherapy, as a result my eyesight was affected drastically. It was decided that Cataract surgery was needed. Had it not been for Mr. Farkas offering to pay for what Medicare and my Supplemental Insurance would not pay for (\$5,400.00) I would not have 20/20 Vision at this time.

Mr. Farkas spent his time and gave donations to the Salvation Army yearly. Mr. Farkas also encouraged employees to volunteer their time as bell ringers.

Mr. Farkas has also opened up his home to employees that were relocating allowing them to stay until they had been able to find a suitable home to live in for themselves and their families.

Respectfully,
Joe W. Ellis

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe W. Ellis', written over a light blue horizontal line.

April, 28th 2011

To: The Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema

United States Eastern District Judge

Dear your Honor,

I would like to take the time to write this letter regarding Lee B Farkas. I have been an employee of his for a long time. Working at the restaurant has been a pleasure, especially working for someone like Mr Farkas. He has made my working experience wonderful and I have learned a lot from him. I ask that you please take this letter into consideration when sentencing him.

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alonso Esgaib', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Alonso Esgaib

Ocala, FL

May 18, 2011

Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

RE: LEE B. FARKAS

Dear Judge Brinkema:

As an attorney here in Ocala, Florida, I have worked with Lee Farkas over the past number of years in many different ways. I recognize that it is difficult for any Judge to determine a fair and equitable sentence, but I thought it best to let your Court know of some of the good things that Mr. Farkas has done over the course of his residence in our community.

I had the pleasure of working with Lee in acquiring, remodeling, and opening the Marion Theater in what was a fairly dilapidated downtown area. I grew up in Ocala, which at the time of my youth was a very small north central Florida sleepy southern town. The Marion Theater was the center of the downtown area, and everyone from this community has very fond memories of its past. Another client of mine, who just happens to be the former Mayor, donated the building to the City of Ocala, and Lee stepped in to rehabilitate, repair, and open for business the theater for the community. Lee spent a lot of personal time and effort in making sure that the theater was restored to its former status, and I personally observed his personal care and time commitment in doing something very good for our community.

This action followed many years of Lee's willingness to participate in any charitable matter for the benefit of our community, whether it was funding the funeral for a child killed in a horrific car accident, rebuilding homes for the less fortunate, being involved in numerous charitable endeavors on behalf of the less fortunate, or giving of his time and talents to numerous local charities and events. I know that our former Mayor relied on Lee's assistance any time funds fell short with regard to many public benefit events.

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It was my understanding that Lee intended as part of his estate plan to leave the vast majority of his then substantial net worth to charities through the Taylor Bean Foundation. Lee set up the Foundation to organize and coordinate significant charitable giving in our community, and he had been actively engaged in such charitable giving for a long period of time.

If you find the need, please feel free to contact me at your convenience to discuss this letter more thoroughly. I know your job is difficult on a day to day basis, but I did want the Court to know of the good things that Lee has done for our community.

Very Truly Yours,

BY



R. WILLIAM FUTCH

RWF/kad



May, 15, 2011

David Galvan
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The Honorable Leonie M. Brinkema
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Your Honor,

Thank you for your taking the time to read this humble account of my impressions of Lee Farkas.

I didn't like Lee Farkas. I had known of him for about 10 years while living in the Ocala, Florida area. We had nothing in common. He was an important man of affluence and influence. I was a working man with roots in a migrant farm-working family. On a few occasions, Lee Farkas and I had been at the same social events. It was my impression that while we may have been at the same event, we arrived there from worlds far apart. I knew Lee Farkas's reputation. I knew him as Ocala's Man of The Year, I knew him as a philanthropist, and I knew him as an important community leader. But to me, he was unapproachable.

When I was on the Executive Board of Directors of the Humane Society of Marion County, the name of Lee Farkas was often brought up in our meetings because he was the fallback option when we needed money, which was always. The group of members would force restraint in asking for donations. We couldn't, in good conscience, rely on Lee Farkas to save us every time we needed a savior. But when we did ask, he made every effort to help. I assumed his actions to be those of a rich man who used charity for eventual personal gain or favor. I didn't like Lee. I didn't know Lee.

Over the last two years, I have come to know Lee Farkas. The charges against him brought many changes to his life. He was forced to lose many relationships by order of law. He was prohibited from communicating with many who had become his family, friends, colleagues, and loyal employees. Many other relationships simply fell away because of fear and for self-preservation, and, frankly, because Lee had little to give them anymore. Few wanted to align themselves with a man who was painted by the local media to be a villain. The loss of many relationships created voids in the life of Lee Farkas. Through a friend, I filled a void. I fell into a friendship.

As a nationally certified counselor who has worked as a mental health therapist and has helped others develop interpersonal communication skills and coping mechanisms for a variety of emotional, mental or developmental issues, I should have known better than to prejudge. But, I am human. I have come to know Lee Farkas, through daily interactions and through observations, as a man whose everyday actions are a reflection of good moral character.

Seemingly inconsequential actions performed in day-to-day life can reveal much about a person. I have seen Lee interact and care for his two dogs, Bobby and Ruby, in nothing but loving ways. I have seen him make time to spend with them, and I have witnessed his thoughtful act of taking leftovers from restaurants to share with them. I have seen the efforts he has made to ensure the dogs receive veterinary care even when he has had no money to spend on luxuries. I see now that his contributions to the Humane Society were a sincere effort rooted in his love of animals and his desire to help us help them. These are the actions of a compassionate man.

Lee's nurturing nature is easily extended to the people around him. Over the last two years, I have seen him interact with employees of his local businesses in Ocala. I have seen the respect and admiration his employees display for him when they make their way to greet him, and I have seen in them the affection they feel from Lee as he takes the time to make sure they are doing well. Even as he was facing the most daunting task of defending himself in court, he kept abreast of his struggling restaurant, car wash and health & fitness businesses in Ocala, Florida. When asked why he bothered with these seemingly losing ventures while he was facing potentially life-altering events, he made no secret about his feelings that he didn't want his employees to lose their jobs if the businesses failed. He didn't care who operated or owned the businesses as long as they remained in operation for the sake of the employees. These are the actions of a loyal man.

In developing my friendship with Lee, I found him to be affable, gracious, intelligent, respectful, pleasant and courteous. I have seen him develop other friendships and he has consistently adhered to this comportment. He is not the unapproachable man I assumed him to be. In fact, he is not afraid to share his feelings, his fears, and his circumstances with those who want to know him. As you know, while he was preparing for his trial, he was tethered to a GPS ankle device to track his whereabouts. That device forced him to carry in hand a battery pack the size of an early 1980's cellular phone. The device was ever-present and very conspicuous. Lee dutifully carried the battery pack as he conducted his daily routine and when people would ask about it, he would freely explain the device to them. While it was an obvious encumbrance physically, he confirmed when asked, as one might expect, that it was also an embarrassing and humbling psychological burden, but, a burden made bearable by the strong conviction of his innocence. Lee was very dutiful in meeting his requirements to his bond officer. He routinely made calls to ensure he was being compliant and to report any and all potentially alerting actions to the servicing center that monitored his device. During the calls I observed, Lee was courteous, truthful and contrite. These are the actions of a responsible man.

I have shared meals with Lee. I have seen him as a dinner guest in someone's home leave the table during dinner to help the host serve other guests, preferring to serve than to be served. I have seen him, with no hesitation, with no invitation, take the initiative to wash dishes or to clean the table or kitchen counters after dinner. These are the acts of a gracious and respectful man.

While the small gestures I describe are not in and of themselves great achievements, they serve to reveal the true nature of Lee Farkas.

I have heard some describe Lee Farkas is a man of contradictions, but I see what others might call contradictions more like complimentary opposites. Lee's strengths and weaknesses are intertwined. He is a strong man yet very vulnerable, seemingly unapproachable yet loyal to a fault when approached and befriended, apparently cultured and educated yet childlike and naïve in his approach to judging the character of others, seemingly astute in developing relationships yet trusting without discretion. Each of these traits is on its own a merit. And each can on its own be a fault. Like a coin needs both sides to be of value, it takes all of these traits to make the man.

I am not one to make friends easily. In my lifetime I have only a few people who I would call friends. I am proud to call Lee Farkas a friend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Galvan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David Galvan

ב"ה

May 16, 2011

CHABAD JEWISH CENTER OF
MARION COUNTY

Rabbi Yossi Hecht
Director

Mrs. Chanie Hecht
Program Director

3500 SW 34th Ave. Cir.
Ocala FL 34474

Phone: 352-291-2218

E-mail:

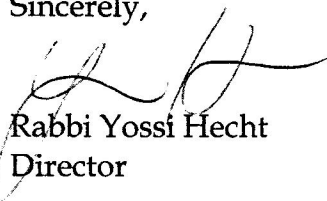
Rabbi@JewishMarion.org
Web: www.JewishMarion.org

Dear Honorable Judge Brinkema,

I hope you receive this letter in good health.

I am writing to express my feelings regarding Mr. Lee Farkas. As for the short time I've known him since I moved to Ocala, I have had wonderful experiences in meeting him. He is one of the kindest men I've met and always looking to help another. While praying with him, I could sense his true sincerity, which he always followed up with a good deed. His kindness is also heard in the voices of the many here in Ocala who have worked for him and known him. Mr. Farkas is truly a compassionate and caring individual.

Sincerely,



Rabbi Yossi Hecht
Director

May 10, 2011

Judge Leonie Brinkema
Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

To the Honorable Judge Brinkema:

I am writing this letter in regard to Mr. Lee Farkas. I am asking you for leniency when sentencing him.

I met Mr. Farkas nine years ago after being hired as a corporate pilot. He helped me through a several month recovery for a medical problem. Although I was unable to fly for those months, he continued to pay me my regular salary. Mr. Farkas has always cared tremendously for his employees and community. I have personally witnessed his dedication and hard work he put into Taylor, Bean & Whitaker. I feel his intentions for the success of this company were all in good faith and I am very saddened at the outcome of a guilty verdict for such a kind, generous and hard working man.

I support him and ask you to consider his outstanding character and reputation before sentencing.

Sincerely,



Jim Herzberger



The Honorable Leonie M Brinkema
United States District Judge
United States Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Judge Brinkema:

I am Lee's sister and his only sibling. Even before we lost our parents, Lee always took care of me. He was always more like an adult than a kid. He was my big brother and still is today. I looked up to Lee, he was smart and we used to have so much fun together. He never minded me tagging along. Some of my best memories are of us taking the city bus downtown Albuquerque and going to the movie. Lee always knew how to get there and I never worried when I was with Lee. I would just go. We would walk down our street and take our slot cars to the place where you could race your cars for hours. We would go next door to the Baskin Robbins and have a banana split and walk home. I always felt safe with Lee around.

We were young when we lost our parents. When my Mom died, I was living in another city in New Mexico. I went to my Mom's house to try and take some things that I wanted and clean out the closets. I remember getting very emotional while I was there and I could not finish the job, in fact I left the house with everything still there. I didn't care about any of it and was too upset to deal with all of it. He ended up shipping me a bunch of furniture and things that he thought that I would want from my Mom. He always took care of everything.

All of the adults in our extended family trusted Lee and he was always the one that was in charge of all of the kids. He would take care of all of the cousins and he was always the one to answer to the adults. The adults in our family always liked Lee more than the other kids because Lee had a hard time being a kid.

It was a very hot summer in Las Cruces, New Mexico. I was living there when my daughter Rachael was born. My husband was gone out of town working when Lee came to visit me. My daughter was only a few days old and neither one of us knew much about babies. I just remember that he came and he saved me that weekend. He ended up getting on the roof and fixing the air conditioner and helping me cope with a newborn. He was always willing to help.

We moved back to Albuquerque shortly after my daughter's birth. Lee let my husband and me and our new baby live with him until we found a place of our own. Lee would have given me the world and he constantly shared everything with me throughout his whole life. Every vacation and holiday and every event in my life was shared with Lee.

Lee also took care of the women in our family particularly our Aunt Ruth who has passed away. We took a trip to Las Vegas and Lee decided that the older women in

the family needed to go and have some fun. We took my elderly Aunt Ruth, my elderly Aunt Ann and one of his friend's Mother. Lee made sure that they had fun and took very good care of them in Vegas. He also made sure that my Aunt Ruth's 80th birthday was a big celebration for her. He invited the whole family to Ocala, Florida and made sure that we all had a great weekend and an amazing celebration for Aunt Ruth.

She loved it and she loved Lee like her own son. Lee also decided that we should have a family reunion. We had never had one and probably won't ever have one again, but we did manage to have one. He wanted the reunion to be held in Santa Fe, NM, close to our hometown. My daughter and I helped him make all of the arrangements and everyone came and had a wonderful time. Lee was always thinking about everyone and trying to help and take care of all of us. It was hard for him sometimes to show his love, but he wanted all of us to be happy and have fun.

Lee was always working, I thought that he loved to work and he did but sometimes, I thought that he should be having fun with the rest of us. He was constantly working and he loved Taylor Bean and Whitaker, he was proud of his accomplishments and the way that he contributed to the community in Ocala. He cared about his company and he cared about his employees. He never knew how to relax and enjoy life, but he knew how to work. He was always on his phone taking care of his company, I think that he got most of his satisfaction from working.

I have always looked up to Lee and loved him with all of my heart. There has not been a day in my life that I don't think of him and there has not been a moment when he has not been there for me. He was my rock and has been my world for most of my 55 years. I have millions of memories of our life together.

Sincerely,



Terri A. Huber